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UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20415

MAY 25 1977

YOUR REFERENCE

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

President Carter, in a ceremony held May 18 at the White House, personally presented an award of \$25,000 (the largest authorized by law) to Lawrence L. Guzick, a Navy employee-inventor. His patented device, which has replaced steam traps aboard over 100 Navy ships and has been approved for Navy-wide installation, has saved the Government over \$10 million yearly in fuel and maintenance costs.

The President, in remarks which are attached, praised not only Mr. Guzick's achievement, but the efforts of all civil servants whose "quiet professionalism is a great strength to a President." He indicated that Federal employees are not recognized often enough and that the absence of adequate recognition is something he hoped could be alleviated.

This award ceremony, I believe, provides a clear indication of the benefits to the Government and to the Nation that can be achieved through the full use of Federal employees' skills and talents and it demonstrates the President's interest in encouraging and rewarding this kind of employee initiative. I urge that the incentive awards system that exists within your organization be used fully and effectively to stimulate constructive suggestions from employees and to enhance individual and group performance.

Chairman

Attachment

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT UPON PRESENTATION OF FEDERAL INCENTIVE AWARD TO LAWRENCE L. GUZICK

THE ROSE GARDEN

AT 11:55 A.H. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: I believe in 1954, the government established a procedure by which distinguished employees could be rewarded for suggestions or inventions that saved the American taxpayers tremendous amounts of money. This is only the sixth time that the maximum award will have been made. Hr. Guzick is an engineer. He has evolved a device which has been now adopted in the Navy and I think which has a great potential for adoption in all steam systems in the military and in private industry.

It is a small device. I was given one this morning to take a look at and this little metering device for permitting steam-trapped pressure to escape—is that correct—has already saved more than 875,000 barrels of oil and more than a half million dollars in repair costs in the Navy alone.

This is a saving of about \$10.5 million to the Federal Government. I understand that Hr. Guzick, after he designed this device and had it patented had a hard time getting it adopted for use. This is typical, I think, of what does occur quite often unnecessarily in our government structure, but it is also a tribute to him his persistence and his ingenuity has brought such rich dividends to the American people. I am very proud to present this morning the maximum award to Hr. Guzick that can be presented under the Employee Incentive Program of the Federal Government. I think we have all heard that the award is for \$25,000.

The check is for \$18,130.31. Perhaps we ought to devise another incentive reward for somebody who can come up with an idea of not withholding taxes when such an award is presented.

But this is your share of the award and the Navy has now saved \$10,500,000, plus about \$7,000 that we have taken out of your award for taxes.

(Laughter.)

I do want to thank you. It is a great honor for me to participate in this ceremony. I think it is a tribute to Mr. Guzick, but also in some ways, this is a tribute to all the superlative civil cervants that work for our government. They are not recognized often enough and the quiet professionalism that is there is a great strength to a President. And the absence of adequate recognition is conething that I hope can be alleviated. I know that the Navy officials

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here and the Secretary of the Havy, Grahan Claytor, and others join ne in congratulating hr. Guzick in expressing our sincere thanks to him on behalf of the Americann people for the superlative contribution to our nation's security and to the more efficient administration of the jobs of all of us from the President on down.

So this saves us \$10,500,000, Hr. Guzick, and we thank you very much for this contribution to the American people.

Good luck to you.

Graham Clayter: Thank you very much, lir. President. I am not only very proud of this invention which has saved us so much money, but I am also proud that the llavy was able to put it to use as fast as it did in spite of the bureaucratic problems that we all face. I am proud of that.

I also want to say that I hope we can have a few more inventions like this, because if we do, we will balance that budget a whole lot sooner than we would otherwise be able to. Thank you very much. .

THE PRESIDENT: As a completely nonpartisan President, I would like to point out that of the six maximum awards that have been presented in the last 23 years, the Navy has won four of them.

(Laughter.)

END

(AT 12:00 P.H. EDT)

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